

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—FOUR. YEAR TERM OF OFFICE FOR GOVERNOR AND OTHER STATE OFFICERS

S. J. R. No. 1

Proposing amendments to Article IV, Sections 4, 22, and 23, Constitution of the State of Texas, so as to provide a four-year term of office for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Secretary of State, and certain statutory State officers.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article IV, Section 4, Constitution of the State of Texas, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 4. The Governor elected at the general election in 1974, and thereafter, shall be installed on the first Tuesday after the organization of the Legislature, or as soon thereafter as practicable, and shall hold his office for the term of four years, or until his successor shall be duly installed. He shall be at least thirty years of age, a citizen of the United States, and shall have resided in this State at least five years immediately preceding his election."

Sec. 2. That Article IV, Section 22, Constitution of the State of Texas, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 22. The Attorney General elected at the general election in 1974, and thereafter, shall hold office for four years and until his successor is duly qualified. He shall represent the State in all suits and pleas in the Supreme Court of the State in which the State may be a party, and shall especially inquire into the charter rights of all private corporations, and from time to time, in the name of the State, take such action in the courts as may be proper and necessary to prevent any private corporation from exercising any power or demanding or collecting any species of taxes, tolls, freight or wharfage not authorized by law. He shall, whenever sufficient cause exists, seek a judicial forfeiture of such charters, unless otherwise expressly directed by law, and give legal advice in writing to the Governor and other executive officers, when requested by them, and perform such other duties as may be required by law. He shall reside at the seat of government during his continuance in office. He shall receive for his services an annual salary in an amount to be fixed by the Legislature."

Sec. 3. That Article IV, Section 23, Constitution of the State of Texas, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 23. The comptroller of Public Accounts, the Treasurer, the Commissioner of the General Land Office, and any statutory State officer who is elected by the electorate of Texas at large, unless a term of office is otherwise specifically provided in this Constitution, shall each hold office for the term of four years and until his successor is qualified. The four-year term applies to these officers who are elected at the general election in 1974 or thereafter. Each shall receive an annual salary in an amount

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to be fixed by the Legislature; reside at the Capital of the State during his continuance in office, and perform such duties as are or may be required by law. They and the Secretary of State shall not receive to their own use any fees, costs or perquisites of office. All fees that may be payable by law for any service performed by any officer specified in this section or in his office, shall be paid, when received, into the State Treasury."

Sec. 4: The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1972, at which election the ballots shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment to provide a four-year term of office for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Secretary of State, and certain statutory State officers."

Passed the Senate on April 14, 1971: Yeas 22, Nays 7; passed the House on May 31, 1971: Yeas 109, Nays 38.

Signed by the Governor June 1, 1971.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR NEEDY AGED, DISABLED AND BLIND PERSONS AND NEEDY DEPENDENT CHILDREN—LIMITATIONS

S. J. R. No. 5

Proposing an amendment to Article III, Section 51-a, of the Texas Constitution to remove the limitation on the total state appropriations for assistance grants for the needy aged, the needy disabled, and the needy blind, and setting a limitation on the total State appropriations during any fiscal year for assistance grants for needy dependent children and the caretakers of such children.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article III, Section 51-a, of the Texas Constitution, be amended to read as follows:

"Provided further, that if the limitations and restrictions herein contained are found to be in conflict with the provisions of appropriate federal statutes, as they now are or as they may be amended to the extent that federal matching money is not available to the State for these purposes, then and in that event the Legislature is specifically authorized and empowered to prescribe such limitations and restrictions and enact such laws as may be necessary in order that such federal matching money will be available for assistance and/or medical care for or on behalf of needy persons.

"Nothing in this section shall be construed to amend, modify or repeal Section 31 of Article XVI of this Constitution; provided further, however, that such medical care, services or assistance shall also include the employment of objective or subjective means, without the use of drugs, for the purpose of ascertaining and measuring the powers of vision of the human eye, and fitting lenses or prisms to correct or remedy any defect or abnormal condition of vision. Nothing herein shall be construed to permit optometrists to treat the eyes for any defect whatsoever in any manner nor to administer nor to prescribe any drug or physical treatment whatsoever, unless such optometrist is a regularly licensed physician or surgeon under the laws of this State."